

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tenderising machine applicable to the processing of pieces of boned meat, containing or not fatty materials or other loads, ~~which consists of~~comprising:

at least two superposed tenderiser assemblies A and B, each integrating a pair of axial-developed tenderising elements ~~(11a-12a, 11b-12b)~~, with a number of cutting members, such as prongs or blades ~~(13)~~ emerging from its surface, which are rotated, with the tenderising elements ~~(11a-12a, 11b-12b)~~ positioned close together, defining an aperture ~~(15)~~ with regulable amplitude and with at least one of the said tenderiser elements ~~(12a, 12b)~~ from each assembly A and B supported with the possibility of moving further away with respect to the other tenderiser element ~~(11a, 11b)~~, acting against ~~some~~an antagonist means during the passage of the pieces of meat which are pulled along and pass between the two tenderiser elements by gravity;[[.]]

~~some~~ means for each of the said tenderiser assemblies A and B to regulate the distance between the cutting members ~~(13)~~ of each pair of rollers ~~(11a-12a, 11b-12b)~~ and to selectively block the movement of at least one ~~12a, 12b~~ of the movable tenderiser rollers for each assembly A, B.

2. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with ~~the previous claim 1~~, characterised ~~in that~~wherein at least one of the said tenderiser elements ~~(11a-12a, 11b-12b)~~ of each assembly A, B is governed in rotation by ~~some means of~~a motorised drive means.

3. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 1, characterised ~~in that~~the wherein said antagonist means have an elastic nature.

4. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 2, characterised ~~in that~~all wherein the tenderiser elements ~~(11a-12a, 11b-12b)~~ are rotated, with the two elements of each assembly A and B, rotating in opposite directions and with different rotational speeds, so that they cooperate in the pull of the incoming pieces of meat and produce a stretching effect on them.

5. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 2 ~~or 3~~, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein said means of motorised drive ~~consist of~~comprises at least one geared motor assembly (30) and at least one flexible transmission ~~(31)~~.
6. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 2 ~~or 3~~, characterised in that it ~~consists of~~further comprising a single geared motor assembly (30) and a single flexible transmission (31) with all tenderiser ~~element~~elements (11a-12a, 11b-12b) for the machine (10) transversally arranged to the passage of the pieces of meat, in mutual parallelism and on different levels, and driven by a pulling element fitted to one of its ends and coupled to the said flexible transmission ~~(31)~~.
7. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein said superposed tenderiser assemblies A, B are arranged with vertical alignment of the apertures (15) for passage of the pieces of meat.
8. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein said superposed tenderiser assemblies A, B are arranged with out-of-phase alignment of the apertures (15) for passage of the pieces of meat.
9. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with ~~any of the previous claims~~claim 1, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein a tenderiser element (11a, 11b) of each tenderiser assembly A, B is supported in a fixed fashion on a machine bed ~~(32)~~.
10. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 9, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein the tenderiser elements (11a-12a, 11b-12b) of each tenderiser assembly A, B has parallel geometric axes.
11. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 9, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein the tenderiser elements (11a-12a, 11b-12b) are supported at their ends and the movable rollers tenderiser elements (12a, 12b) for each assembly A, B are coupled to a pivoting articulated lever (27) which, in its mid zone is connected to a pusher assembly ~~(25)~~.
12. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 11, characterised in that ~~the~~wherein each of the said tenderiser elements (11a-12a, 11b-12b) ~~consists of~~are comprised of an axial development body terminating in two end journals (21) that rest on some supports ~~consisting of~~comprising a seating bowl (22) and a securing bowl ~~(23)~~, with said securing bowl

~~(23) that can~~adapted to be superposed on the seating bowl ~~(22)~~ by rotation and/or linear movement and which can be fixed/freed by means of a retaining mechanism ~~(16)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 11, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said pusher element ~~(25) is~~assembly comprises a shaft that is connected to an elastically-loaded element and contained in a support casing ~~(14)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the support casings ~~(14)~~ associated with the respective ends of each movable tenderiser element ~~(12a, 12b)~~ of the assemblies A and B are coupled by a transversal retaining rod ~~(18)~~ that is connected by both ends to ~~some~~ levers ~~(36)~~ articulating to ~~some~~ supports ~~(17)~~ coupled to a machine bed ~~(32)~~, with the said retaining rod ~~(18)~~ in turn related to a mechanism ~~(19)~~ that controls its relative position with respect to the bed ~~(32)~~ and regulable from one side of the machine ~~(10)~~ by means of a wheel ~~(24)~~ through a transmission element ~~(20)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 11, ~~characterised in that it~~incorporates somefurther comprising means to selectively disable the movement of each of the pusher elements ~~(25)~~assemblies for the tenderiser elements ~~(12a, 12b)~~, which can be moved in relation to the support casings ~~(14)~~, ~~consisting of~~comprising a stop ~~(26)~~ ~~that can~~adapted to be interposed in the path of the said pusher element ~~(25)~~assembly to immobilise it.

16. (Currently Amended) A machine in accordance with claim 14, ~~characterised in that~~wherein said stops ~~(26)~~ are remotely operated from a wheel ~~(33)~~ by means of a transmission selected from a group that includes a flexible transmission by cables ~~(34, 35)~~.

17. (New) A machine in accordance with claim 3, wherein said means of motorised drive comprises at least one geared motor assembly and at least one flexible transmission.

18. (New) A machine in accordance with claim 3, further comprising a single geared motor assembly and a single flexible transmission with all tenderiser elements for the machine transversally arranged to the passage of the pieces of meat, in mutual parallelism and on different levels, and driven by a pulling element fitted to one of its ends and coupled to the said flexible transmission.